



2829
1 Mar 2004

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Andre BELMONT et al.

Group Art Unit: 2829

Application No.: 10/070,833

Examiner: R. Kobert

Filed: March 11, 2002

Docket No.: 112183

For: METHOD FOR MAKING A CARD WITH MULTIPLE CONTACT TIPS FOR
TESTING MICROSPHERE INTEGRATED CIRCUITS, AND TESTING DEVICE
USING SAID CARD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 26, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-5 with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

The Action also includes an Election of Species Requirement. However, because Applicants elect Group I, no response to the Election of Species Requirement appears necessary.

Should there be any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:JMS/jcp

Date: October 27, 2003

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